



PRESIDENT – Mike Spagnoletti
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SECRETARY – Theresa Oto
TREASURE – Cathy Bly
DIRECTOR – Trooper Melinda Bondarenka
CO-DIRECTOR – Officer Bobbie Bertalan
CO-DIRECTOR – Deputy Sheriff Jason Tarap

Dear CEO/Manager:

Each year, Allegheny County Camp Cadet continues to advance the cause of mentoring our youth. Through our program, we have seen many lives changed for the better.

Allegheny County Camp Cadet is a non-profit organization that runs a free weeklong camp for co-eds 12 – 14 years of age. Camp is an opportunity for youth to challenge themselves, enhance their self-confidence, self-image, discipline and to meet new friends. It is a law enforcement camp that also improves the relationships between law enforcement and the youth. The youth who are selected for camp are good kids and the leaders of tomorrow. THIS IS NOT A BOOT CAMP FOR TROUBLED YOUTH, but an opportunity to reward the children who are doing the right things. So many times, they are overlooked because resources are going to others. We want to make sure these kids continue to receive guidance and are pushed in the right direction.

We limit the number to about 60, so we, the counselors (all active law enforcement officers) can build a relationship with the children. We want to build trust between the officers and the diverse group of youth. This will allow the children to build friendships amongst themselves.

Allegheny County Camp Cadet continues to work to help make a difference in the lives of people. Each and every person associated with camp, whether it's a child, their parent or a counselor has felt the positive impact of Camp Cadet. Parents are thrilled with the transformation in just a week. Children who didn't make their beds are now making them. They are saying yes sir and no sir, and have the self-confidence that they didn't have before.

However, continuing camp is costly. It costs us approximately \$500 to send one child to camp. This cost includes their room and board for the week, 4 uniforms, bike helmets, water bottles, notebooks and backpacks. There are other costs such as bicycles and maintenance on the bikes, and the graduation ceremony. We do not ask the attendees to pay for their stay at camp because we realize that some are not financially able to afford it. We do ask that the graduates of each camp volunteer their time to an event or organization to give back to the community.

Today, you can make an immediate difference in the lives of these children. We are asking for either a monetary donation or an in-kind gift. We raise most of our money through donations, and from our Kick Off fundraising event. This event will take place on February 23, 2024, at McFadden's Saloon North Shore. We are sponsoring a Chance Auction and are accepting any donated items to be auctioned off.

Please follow our page at <https://www.facebook.com/alleghenycountycampcadet>, to stay connected. Give to help our youth and consider attending the event, it will start at 6:00pm and conclude at 10:00pm.

I hope we can count on your help. Please send the most generous gift you can, as soon as possible to the address listed below.

With grateful appreciation,

Ofc. Jamie Cunningham

Officer Jamie Cunningham
Kick Off Chair, Allegheny County Camp Cadet

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